



Disclaimer: I hope you will find these notes helpful. They are not a complete representation of the meeting, but rather the highlights of topics discussed. Feel free to contact Erin Murphy or Zachary Burton at Westfield City Services Center: communications@westfield.in.gov or (317) 804-3001 if you have any questions.

MEETING SUMMARY

WeCAN met at Westfield City Services Center (2728 E 171st Street) for the April meeting.

Jim Ake opened the meeting and those in attendance introduced themselves.

Jim discussed the Plant Native movement for spring planting. Hamilton County has listed nurseries that carry native plants. May 21st at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds – Hamilton County Master Gardeners event as well will help with springtime planting.

Mayor Cook - Q&A

Mayor discussed the landscaping along US 31 that Chris McConnell is working on. Each interchange will have native plants and will have a color theme. The grasses are native prairie grasses. Would be cut once a year. Also discussed the litter campaign.

Question was asked about the towers. Plan at the moment is to open it up to a competition for designs.

Question was raised about the ruling of Carmel's traffic ordinance. WPD is in compliance with State statute.

The Census has been completed. It will be about 90 days until official count is reached. New number is estimated to bring in new revenue.

Largest weekend that we've had at Grand Park this past weekend. NIKE tournament, college talent from all over the country.

WPD – Annual Report

Discussed accreditation process for department. WPD is now accredited through Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

Discussed statistics over the past few years. Noted that calls of service have increased. Crimes per 1,000 have gone from 22 to 17 even though our population has increased. Staff, including school resource officers, is up to 45 officers.

Joel discussed importance of community policing: community bike patrols, walking into stores, talking to people, doing security checks.

The 2015 Annual Report can be found here:

http://www.westfield.in.gov/egov/documents/1461673483_03769.pdf

Ken Alexander – Grand Park Today

Grand Park Director Ken Alexander presented an update on Grand Park, now in its third year. Discussed the visitor experience, safety, indoor facility, number of athletes, \$7 billion dollar youth sports industry, and growth.

Adidas deal was the largest deal of its kind for this company. Nike was here this past weekend. In the last two weekends, did about \$100K dollars in concession sales. Does not include fieldhouse.

Expect to see more hotels this year. Bigger tournaments mean bigger economic impact on the community. Will be more events with archery, paintball, possibly down the road the Big 10 championships.

Parks and Recreation – Events

Parks Director Melody Jones discussed different parks programs in the county. Discussed Westfield Parks' transition to events as opposed to programming. Kelley Wells talked about the Indiana Bicentennial event in Westfield called Follow the Drinkin' Gourd. Tickets are on sale now. Visit www.enjoywestfieldevents.com

People can meet Bennet Ayers, playwright of Follow the Drinkin' Gourd, on May 15 at Barnes and Noble in Westfield.

Other Business

Next month's meeting will be held on May 24th due to Memorial Day holiday.

Jim asked the group to come to next month's meeting with two issues that are affecting their neighborhoods.

Jim concluded the meeting at 8:35.